

FREDERICK J. FAIRBRASS.

MARCH 7, 1904.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ALGER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 6249.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 6249) granting an increase of pension to Frederick J. Fairbrass, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

This soldier, now 67 years of age, served as a private in Company I, First Michigan Cavalry, from August 24, 1861, to February 28, 1863, when he accepted a commission as first lieutenant in Company L, Ninth Michigan Cavalry, in which organization he served until July 31, 1865, when honorably discharged.

He is now pensioned under the general law at \$10 per month on account of rheumatism and resulting disease of heart contracted while a private in Company I, First Michigan Cavalry.

A claim for increase of pension filed in June, 1902, was rejected upon the ground that he was not entitled to a higher rating by reason of the pensioned causes.

It appears from medical testimony and the certificate of medical examination of October 17, 1902, in the case that the soldier became paralyzed on September 11, 1902.

The last certificate of medical examination in the case rated him \$30 for paralysis, the result of general arterio-sclerosis, and also rated him \$10 for a hernia.

Medical and other testimony filed in the Pension Bureau in July, 1902, shows that by reason of the paralytic stroke he is entirely helpless; that while he has learned to help himself somewhat, he can not dress himself entirely, and must have the care and attention of a nurse a large part of the time; that he shakes his right foot in walking and has little use of his right arm and hand; that by the use of canes he manages to get about slowly; that his financial condition is such that he can not afford to hire an attendant, and that his care falls heavily upon his wife.

The officer's honorable services of four years, his helplessness, and destitution warrant, following precedents, an increase of his pension to the amount named in the bill.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended.